



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
LANSING DISTRICT OFFICE



DAN WYANT
DIRECTOR

January 20, 2015

Mr. John Wagner, Director, Environmental Health and Safety
Diamond Chrome Plating, Inc.
604 South Michigan Avenue
PO Box 557
Howell, Michigan 48843

Dear Mr. Wagner:

SUBJECT: National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)
Permit No.: MI0058204
Designated Name: Diamond Chrome Plating, Inc.

Staff of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Water Resources Division (WRD) has been notified that Diamond Chrome Plating Incorporated (DCP), located at 604 South Michigan Avenue, Howell, Michigan, Livingston County, is in violation of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. MI0058204, issued November 14, 2014, effective December 1, 2014.

The following violations were reported.

1. **Total Chromium Exceedance.** On January 5, 2015, you reported via telephone that on December 25, 2014, DCP exceeded its effluent limit of 130 ug/l for total chromium at Monitoring Point 001B with a discharge of 35,318 gallons of effluent with 150 ug/l total chromium. This is a violation of your NPDES permit limitations.
2. **Failure to Sample.** On Tuesday, January 6, 2015, you reported via email that DCP had failed to sample its influent for total chromium and hexavalent chromium at Monitoring Point 001B on December 25, 2014, as required. Your January 8, 2015, response said your operator has been instructed to make certain the influent monitoring system is operational at all times.
3. **Failure to Obtain Representative Samples.** On January 9, 2015, you reported via email that ferrous sulfate is added prior to the influent sampling location. DCP is required to take representative samples at all required monitoring points, including its influent, per Part II.B.1. of your NPDES permit. Samples of the influent must be taken prior to treatment to be representative of the influent, which is contaminated storm water runoff. As you may know, the purpose of this monitoring is to provide information on pollution source control and the effectiveness of your treatment system. Please sample influent at a representative monitoring point prior to treatment as required and provide us with a detailed description of the monitoring location and the constituents sampled.
4. **Response to Noncompliance.** On January 8, 2015, you submitted a written response to the December 25, 2014, effluent limit violation at Monitoring Point 001B. DCP proposed to reverse the flow to one treatment tank in response to the noncompliance. This response is inadequate. Please provide a written response that provides a plan to address the fact that total chromium is passing through your treatment system in exceedance of your permit limitations.

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5. **Failure to Sample.** On January 16, 2015, you reported via telephone call that DCP failed to sample its effluent for total chromium and hexavalent chromium with the required composite samples at 001B. A grab sample was taken at the end of the discharge period when the reported problem with the sampling device was discovered. Please report the results of this sample on your discharge monitoring report with a comment that the sample type was one grab sample rather than a composite sample. Please address any issues with your sampling device and sample future discharges as required.

DCP should take immediate action to achieve and maintain compliance with the terms and conditions of your NPDES permit. Please respond in writing to items 3 through 5 above by February 20, 2015. If any items are incomplete at that time, please provide a schedule for their completion.

Should you require further information, please contact me or Ms. Carla Davidson, Senior Environmental Quality Analyst, Water Resources Division, Lansing District Office, at 517-284-6663; davidsonc@michigan.gov; or Department of Environmental Quality, Constitution Hall, 525 West Allegan, 1st Floor-South, P.O. Box 30242, Lansing, Michigan 48909.

Sincerely,



Cheryl L. Bartley, Supervisor
Lansing District Office
Water Resource Division

cc: Mr. John Beatty III, DCP
Mr. Richard Kuhl, DAG
Ms. Nicole Zacharda, DEQ WRD
Ms. Carla Davidson, DEQ WRD
Mr. William Yocum, DEQ OWMRP
Mr. Daniel McGeen, DEQ AQD
Ms. Rebecca Taylor, DEQ RRD